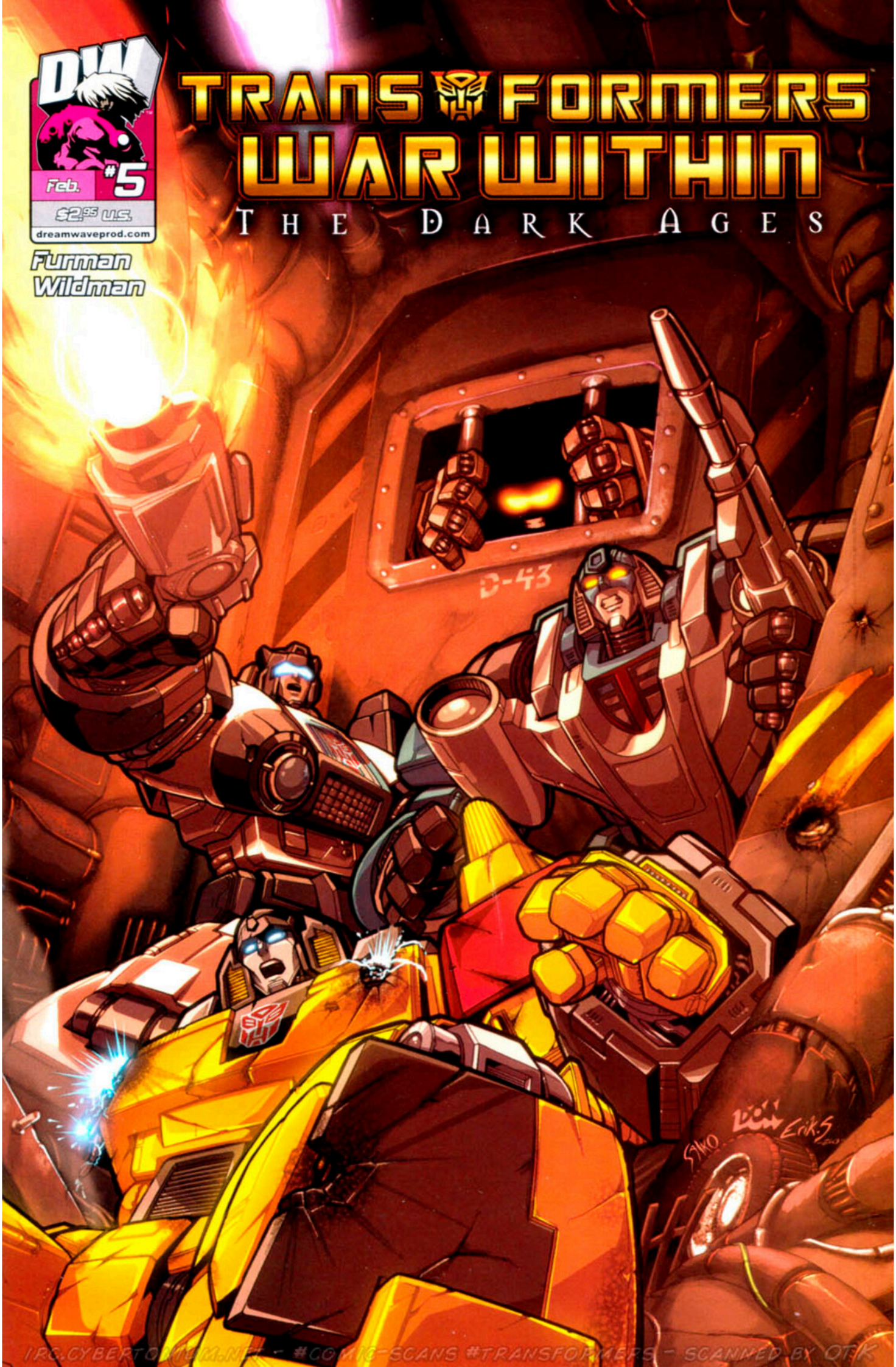

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War Within :
Dark Ages
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#
Comic Scan

FIRESTORM!

THE RETURN OF JETFIRE

THE TRANSFORMERS GENERATION ONE

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE!

#3 On Sale in MARCH

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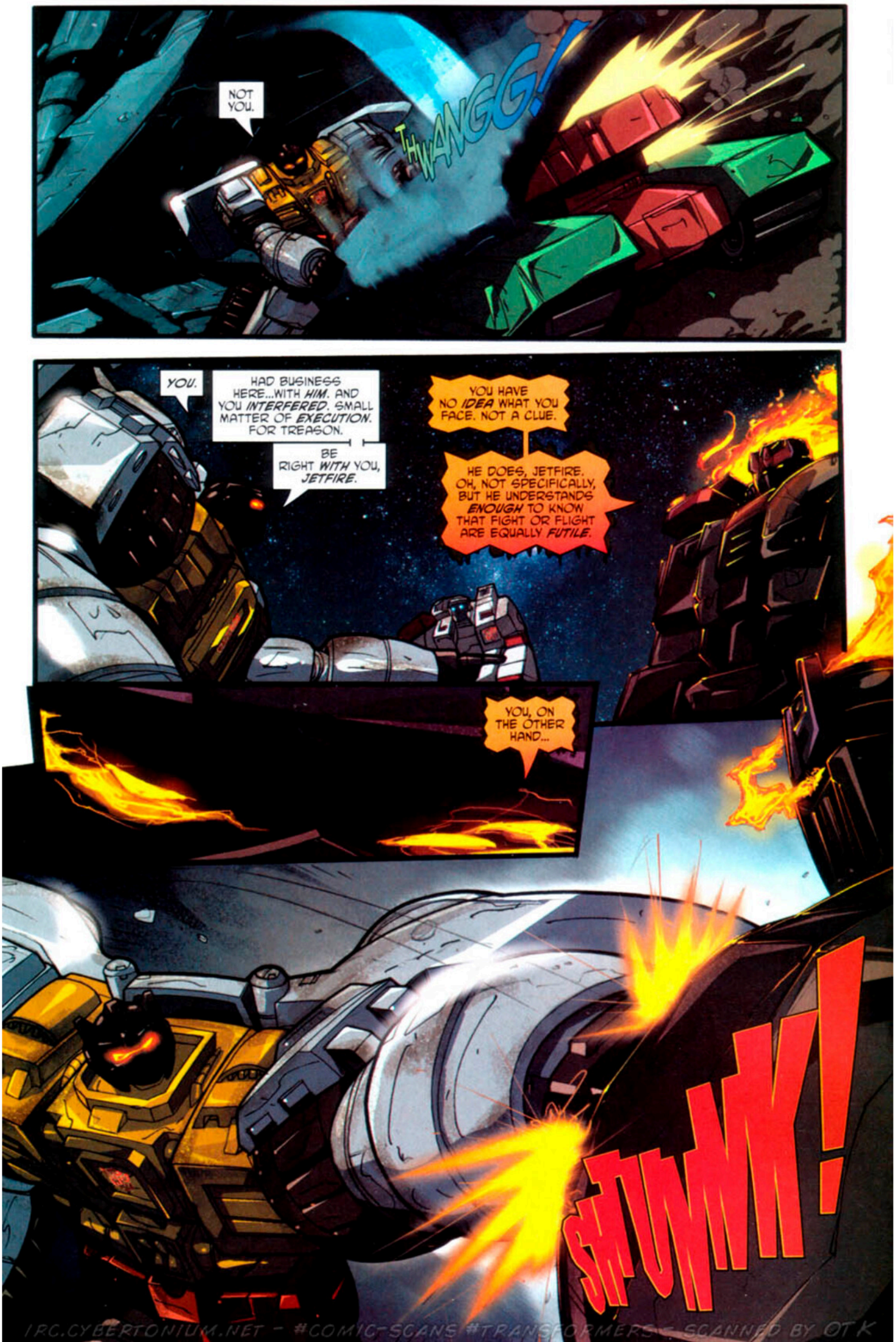

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...TO THE DARK AGE!

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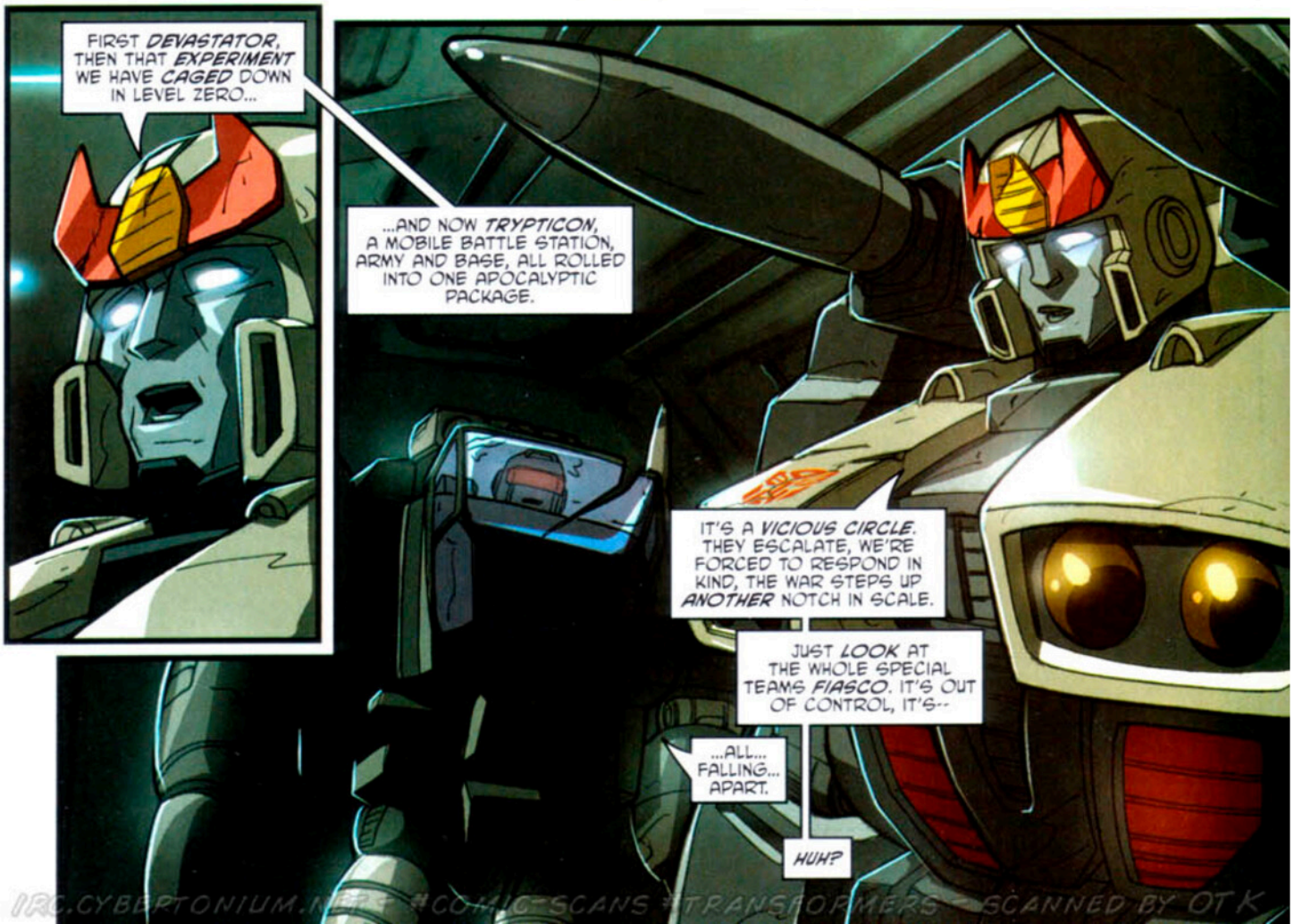

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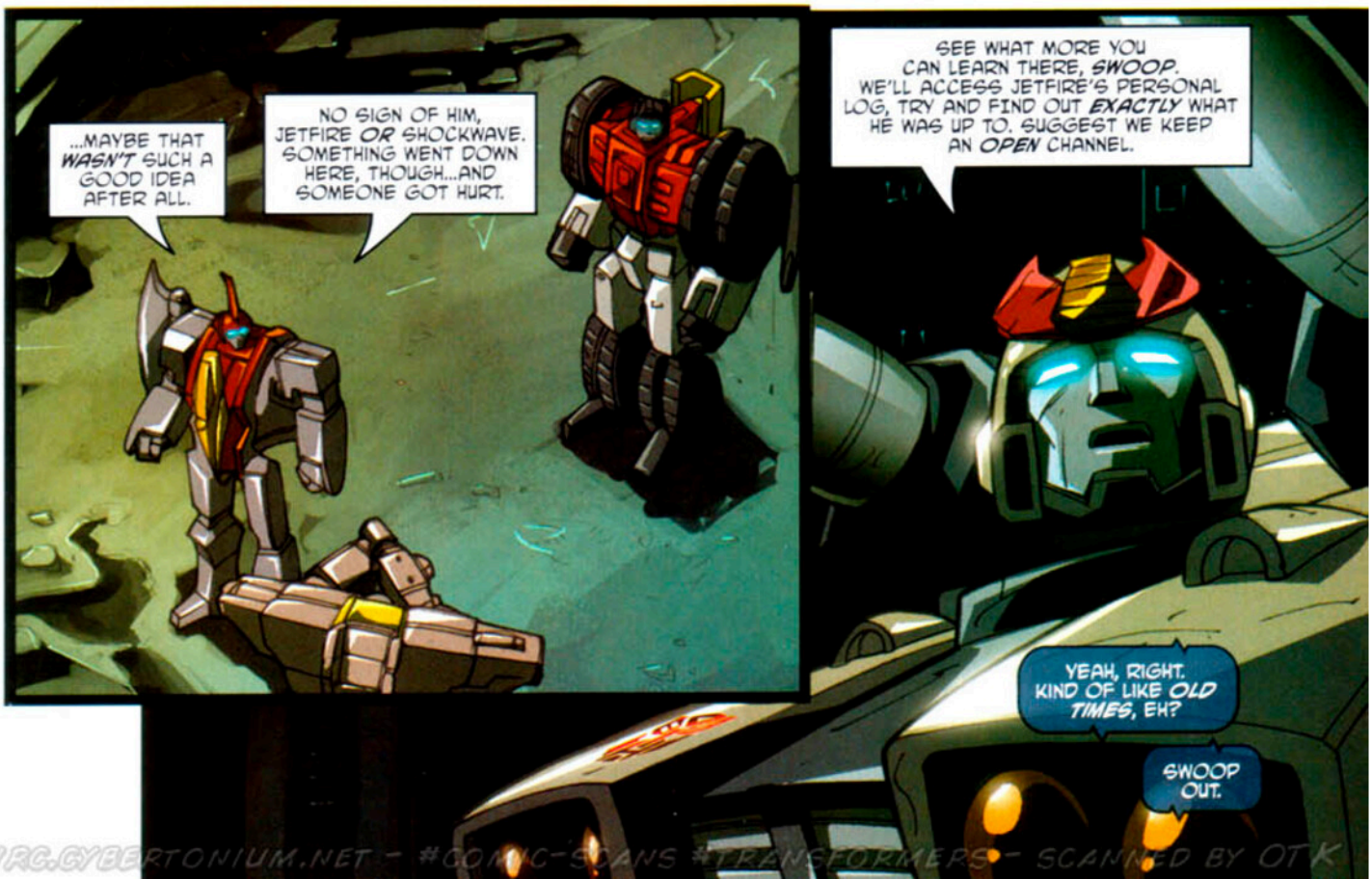

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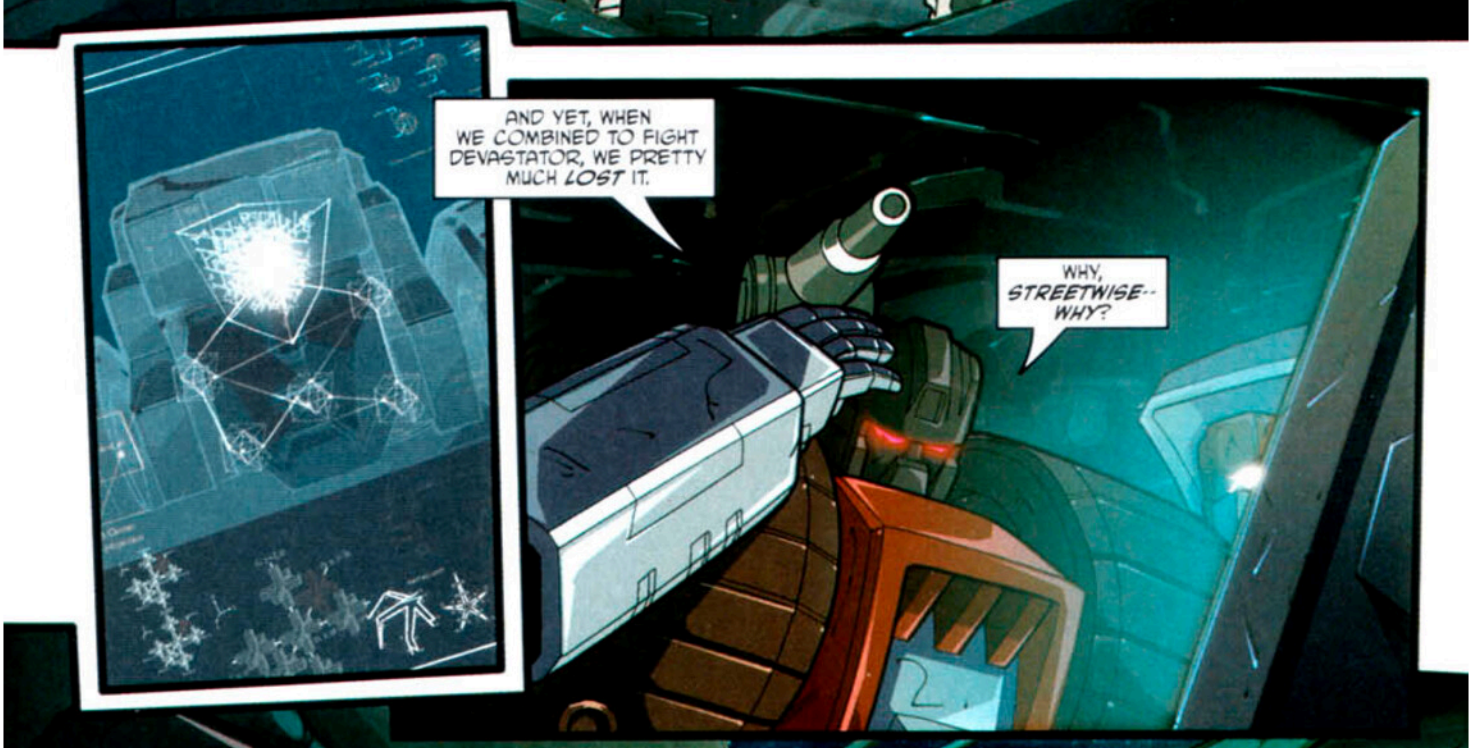

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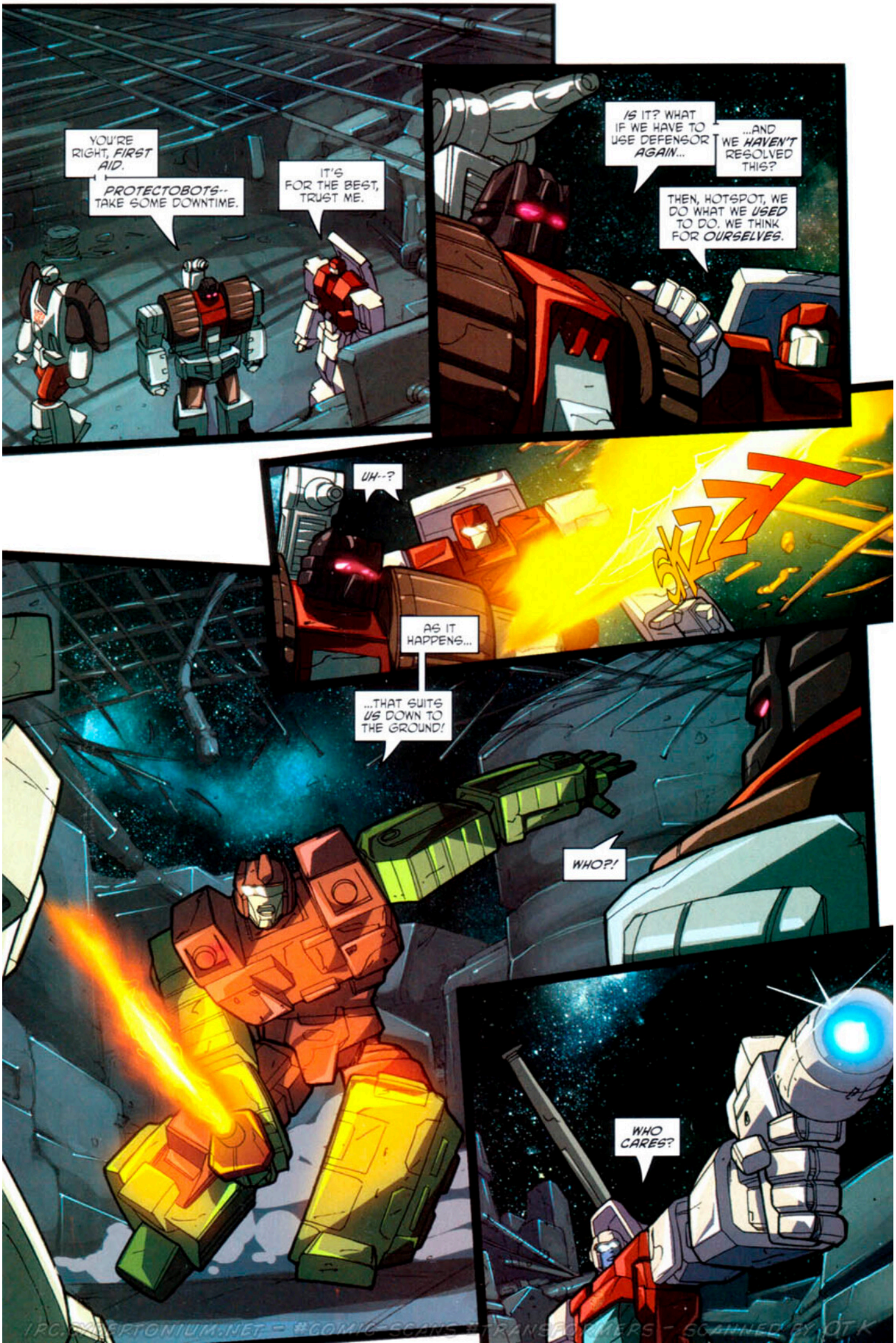

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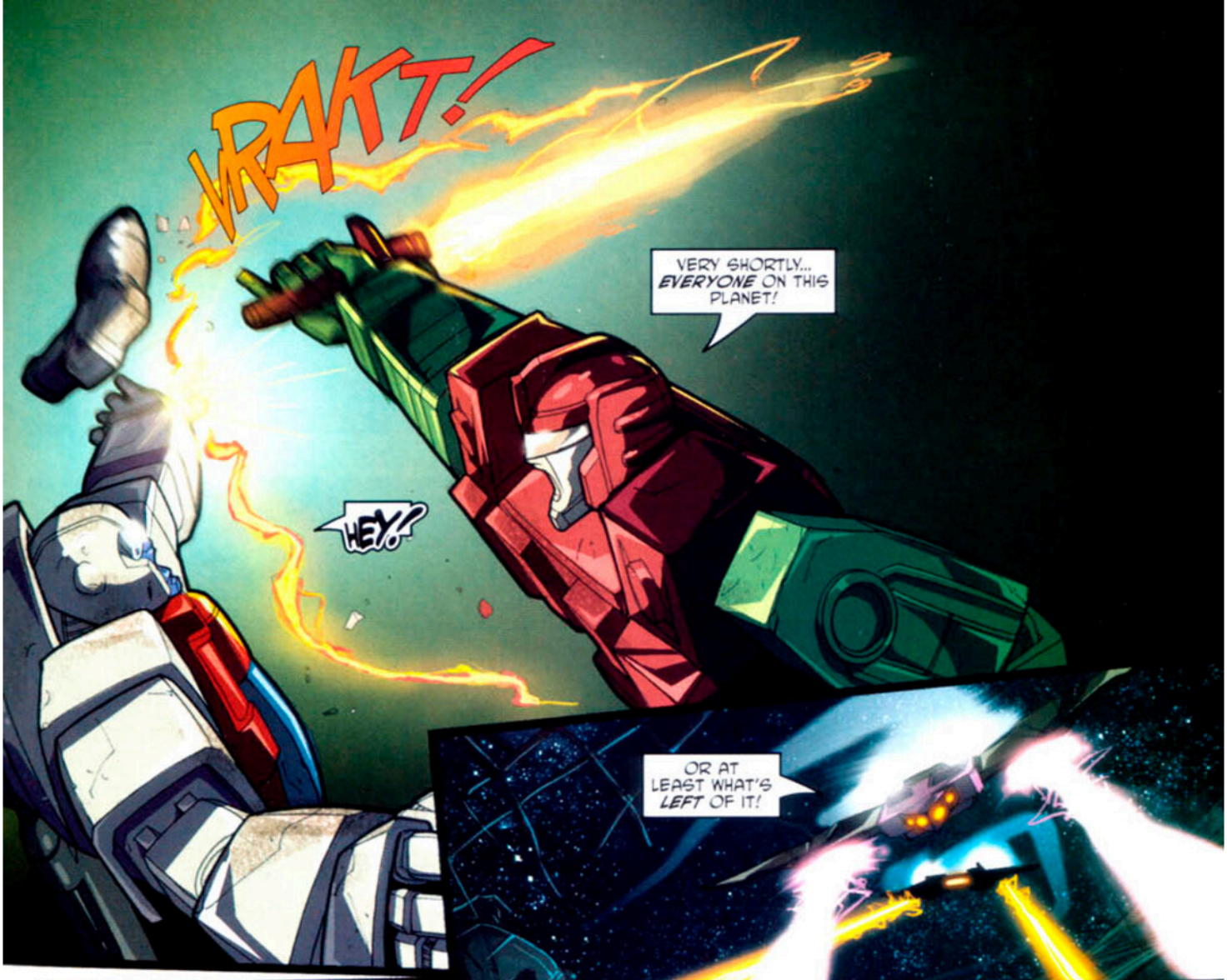

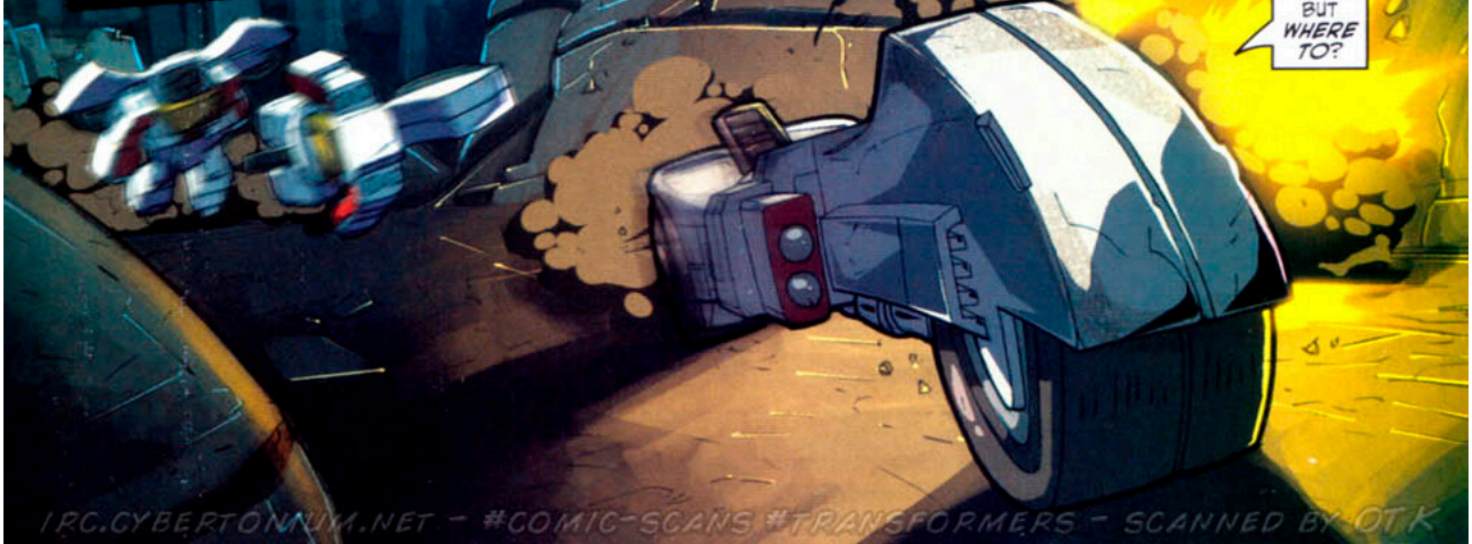

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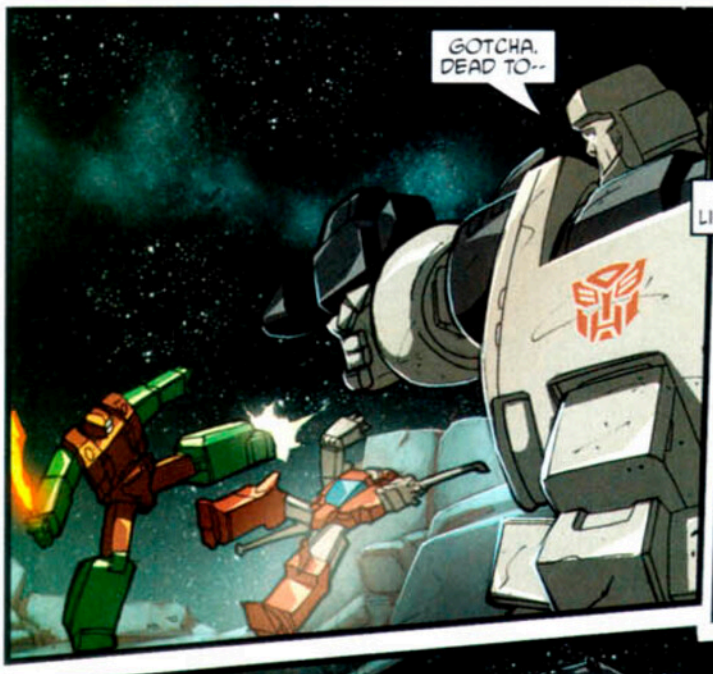

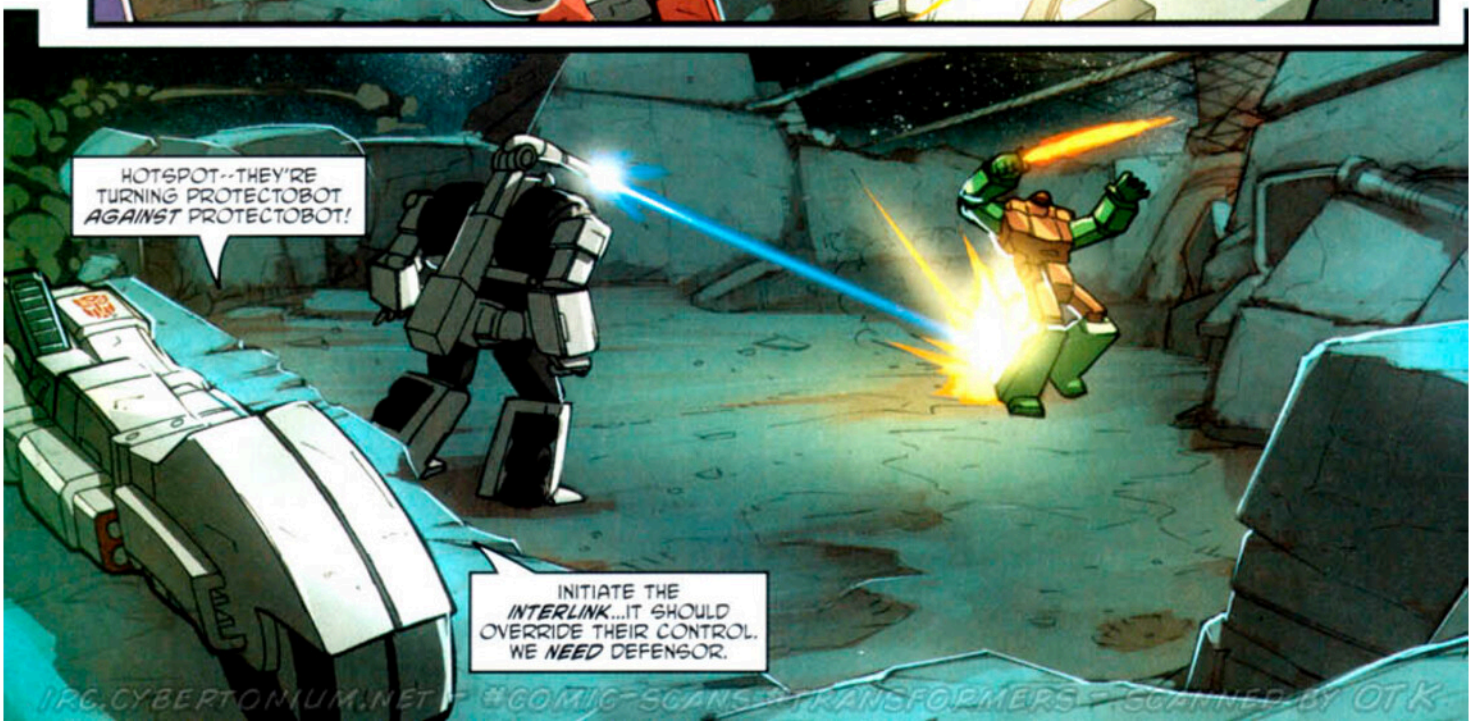

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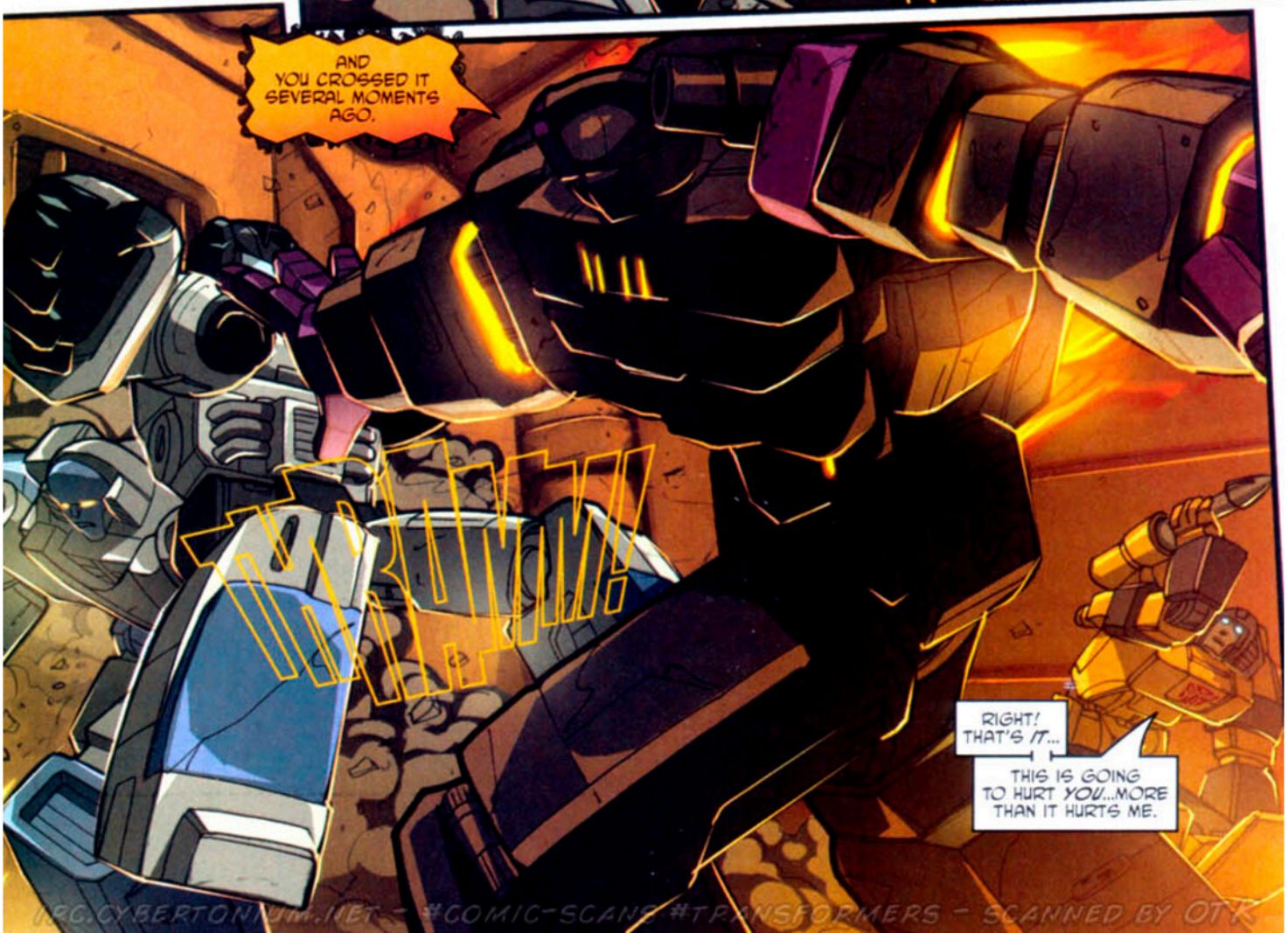

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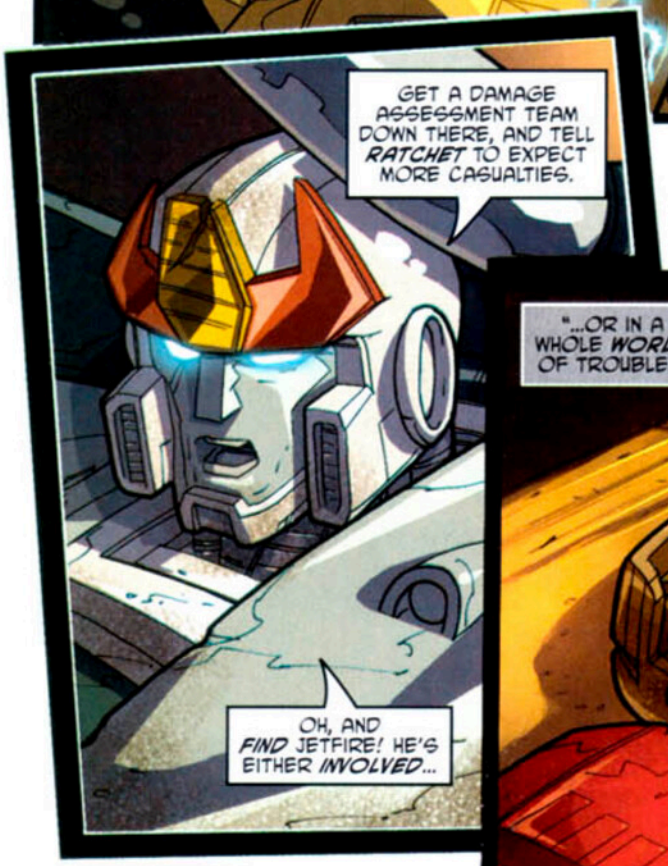

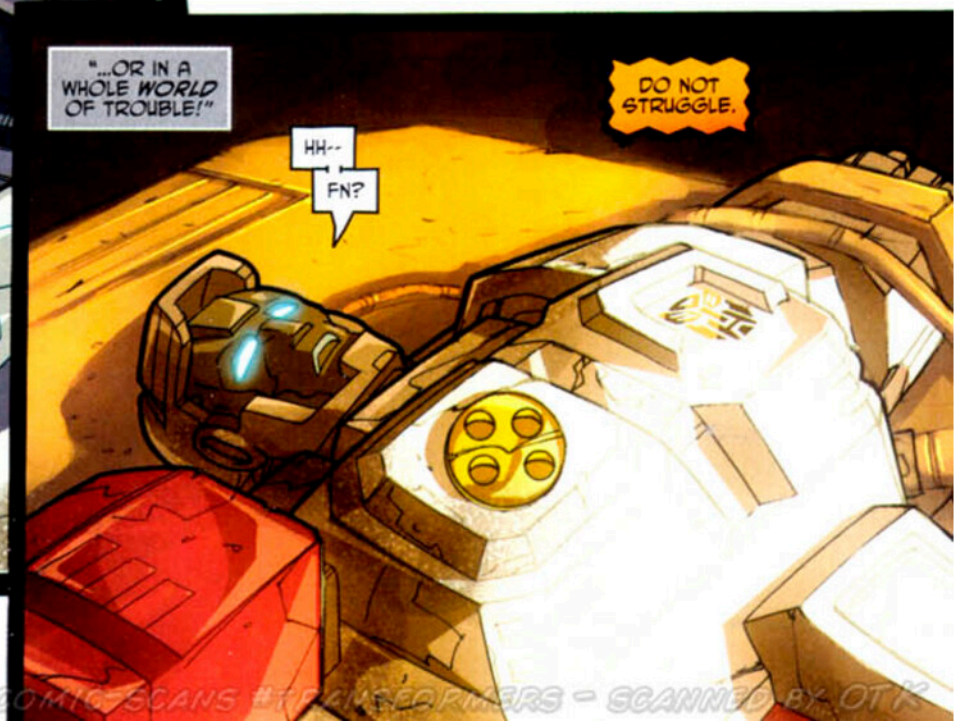

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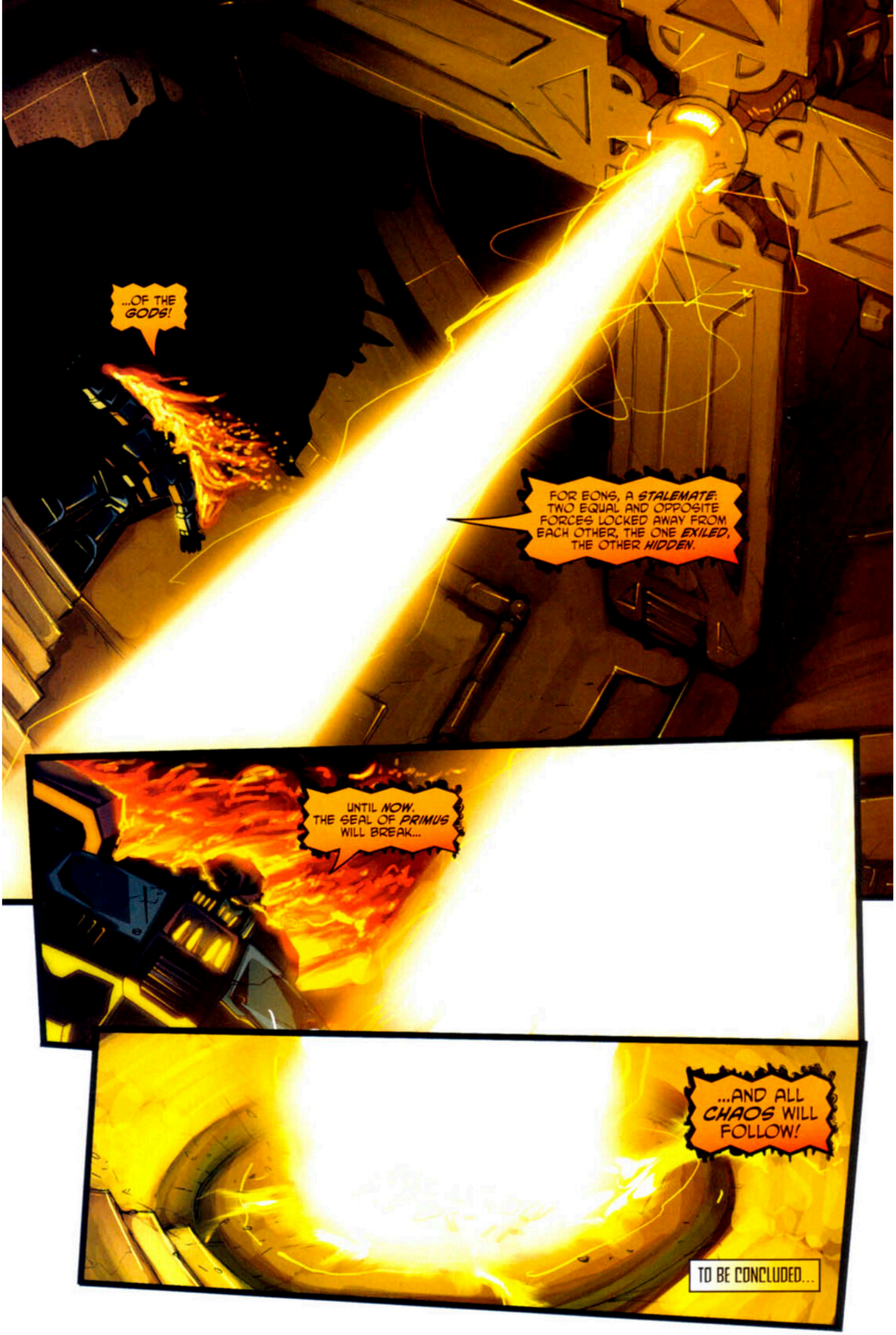

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TRANSFORMERS: WAR WITHIN c/o Dreamwave Productions
11 Allstate Parkway, Suite 200
Markham, Ontario, L3R 9T8, Canada
e-mail: tfwarwithin@dreamwaveprod.net

DECLARATIONS OF WAR

Here's what's 'within' the Declarations of War mailbag this month!

Is there going to be more Transformers: War Within after The Dark Ages?

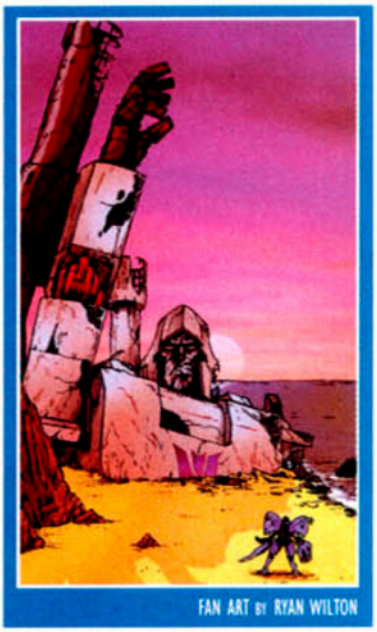
Phil

Definitely, Phil! There are still several MILLION years between The Dark Ages and the time of the *Generation One* series, allowing plenty of room to tell more stories of the pre-earth Transformers. Look for more info on the future of *Transformers War Within* next month!

Dark Ages is the greatest. It reminds me of the TF stories by that other company in the UK that shall remain nameless. Especially with artwork by Andrew Wildman (which is awesome), the presence of the Wreckers, and I thought it was great how Grimlock almost called Swoop "Divebomb." I know I'm not the only one who got that line. Other good stuff: Ratbat, Devastator vs Defensor, Jetfire, Trypticon. I can't wait to see how this plays out, or how Optimus and Megatron get back. Who knows, maybe they won't until volume 3, that'd be a nice cliffhanger. The Fallen is so bad-ass, and I love seeing Bludgeon, he's always been one of my favorites (right after Grimlock of course). I loved him being the silent warrior in Worlds Collide, and now we see him without his Pretender shell. War Within definitely gives you a closer look at where some of our favorites came from. I mean, all the major players are in different factions now: Prowl and Jazz are with the Autobots, Ironhide, Grimlock and Kup are with the LSC, the Wreckers are on their own, the combiners are on their own. Interesting to see how things fall apart without Prime, I can't wait to see what brings them all back together. I've said it before, and I'll say it again: Simon Furman is the man!!! And the best part is, Brad Mick and Simon Furman are working closely on this so that what happens in War Within can be carried over into G1 i.e. Ironhide and Kup reuniting in G1 volume 2. Questions:
1) Can you please show Ultra Magnus in the volume 3?
2) How about other characters like pre-Headmasters Scorponok and Fort Max in volume 3 as well?
That's all for now, keep up the good work. Your TF books just keep getting better and better.

Tobias May
Naperville, IL

1) A glimpse of "War Within Ultra Magnus" can actually be seen in a flashback scene in *Transformers: Generation One Vol.2 #6*, so you know for sure that he played some part in that era... 2) Well, we've already seen pre-Pretenders like Bugly and Bludgeon, as well as some pre-Triple Changers like Springer and Blitzwing...could pre-Headmasters be far behind? Keep reading!


FAN ART BY RYAN WILTON

Absolutely loved the new issue. Between this and the G1 series I get my Transformers fix every month. Quick question though. Any chance of having a War Within: More than Meets the Eye? If ever there should be a More Than Meets The Eye series it should be for this book. Don Figueroa's designs are incredible. He keeps what is the heart of the character, yet the retro-cybertronian modes are awesome.

We the fans need this series.

Thanks
Rob Messick

For now Rob, you'll have to make due with *MTMTE: Transformers Generation One*, and the all-new *MTMTE: Transformers Armada* profiles series. But...an official guide to the War Within WOULD be a welcome addition to the *MTMTE* line-up, as well as a great opportunity to show off artist extraordinaire Don Figueroa's amazing design work. So, a quick message to all you *War Within* fans, keep writing in and show us how much you want a *MTMTE: Transformers War Within Official Guidebook!*

Join us next month for the cybertron-shattering conclusion to *Transformers: War Within 'The Dark Ages'*!

ROGER LEE
Editor-in-Chief,
Dreamwave Productions

#6 NEXT MONTH

The shocking conclusion! At the very heart of the planet, the Fallen prepares to crack the seal on the Well of All Sparks, lighting CYBERTRON up like a beacon. Somehow SHOCKWAVE must convince the AUTOBOTS to bolster his all-out attack on the Fallen...before it's too late for them all.

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WAVELENGTHS

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THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO THE TRANSFORMERS IS BACK!

Now you can capture all the in-depth details of the hottest *TRANSFORMERS* series in years: ***TRANSFORMERS ARMADA***! From AUTOBOTS to MINI-CONS—and everything in between—you'll find stunning art and all-new profiles on every page of this 3-issue series.

Fan-favorite artists **Pat Lee, Don Figueroa, James Raiz, Joe Ng,** and **Guido Guidi** all contribute to this ultimate guide, while *TRANSFORMERS* fanatics **Adam Patyk** (*TRANSFORMERS G1: MTMTE*) and **Brad Mick** (*TRANSFORMERS: GENERATION ONE*) provide an in-depth look at the big bots with detailed and revealing profiles.

Still not satisfied? Want even more bang for you TF-buck? You got it. The series will feature 3 interlocking covers which combine to form one massive image! Also included is a special comic tie-in to the exciting new series: ***TRANSFORMERS ENERGON.***

Don't miss out on the chance to get this exhaustive reference to the mega-hit *TRANSFORMERS ARMADA* toy line, cartoon, and comic. Whether you want to catch up with your favorites or get in on the ground floor for *ENERGON*, this is where to begin! ***MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE: TRANSFORMERS ARMADA #1*** goes on sale ***March 2004.***

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE
OFFICIAL GUIDEBOOK
TRANSFORMERS ARMADA

FEBRUARY FUNDAMENTALS:

DEVIL MAY CRY #1

DUEL MASTERS #4

TRANSFORMERS: GENERATION ONE (ONGOING) #2

TRANSFORMERS ENERGON #20

TRANSFORMERS /G.I.JOE #6

TRANSFORMERS: WAR WITHIN "THE DARK AGES" #5

TRANSFORMERS: GENERATION ONE "WAR & PEACE" TPB

FROM THE DESK OF JOHN NEY RIEBER

TITLE: Writer
BASE OF OPERATIONS: Southern USA y'all.
CURRENT PROJECTS: Top-secret Projects for Dreamwave, *G.I. Joe: Reloaded*
PAST PROJECTS: *Shadows Fall; Tell Me, Dark; Books of Magic; Captain America; Transformers/G.I. Joe.* And a number of short comic stories that I'm really fond of, but will probably never see reprinted.
FAVORITE SAYINGS: "It's a funny world. If you're paying attention." "What's up with that?"
AUTBOTS VS JOES, WHO WINS? Tough to say, without specifying which incarnation of the two teams we're talking about...or why they're fighting. The Autobots definitely have the edge on the Joes...physically. But the Autobots are nice. They don't have the Joes' drive or killer instinct.

I'm going to miss those giant robots.

The Joes aren't finished with me yet–or I'm not through with them, depending on your view of the relationship betweeen writers and the fictional characters who own, borrow, steal, or rent them. But the Transformers...

I'm going to miss those guys. Though I must admit that I'm one of a handful of human beings on this planet who can say, with absolute truthfulness: I know exactly what it feels like to be totally at the mercy of an evil Decepticon horde.

Neither Jae Lee nor I really knew what we were getting into when we accepted Dreamwave's TRANSFORMERS/G.I. JOE challenge. There've been moments in the course of the past eight months when I wished I'd done the math before I dived into the project. I'm a character-oriented writer–character-driven might be a more accurate description. And by the time I'd grasped the full implications of scripting a six-chapter, 132-page adventure story with a core cast of almost forty strong and distinct main characters, it was too late. I was surrounded. The Joes and the Cobras, the Autobots and the Decepticons...they owned me.

It's a lot harder than it may look from a distance, writing–or drawing–a team book. Let alone a four-team book.

But it's also a lot more fun.

Thanks for the rides, guys–Optimus, Iron Hide, Grimlock, Hound, Bumblebee...

I'll never forget.

There's a little giant robot in all of us.

JOHN NEY RIEBER
January 20, 2004

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MARCH 2004

GHOSTS OF THE PAST

SIMON FURMAN + GUIDO GUIDI

TRANSFORMERS ENERGON #21

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